



S-V87A USAF ARCTIC SURVIVAL SCHOOL



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LOCATION

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The Arctic Survival School is located in Building 2610 Eielson AFB, at the corner of Central and Broadway. Travel straight from the main gate, do not veer off on flight line drive. You will pass the aircraft static display and gas station. Continue straight to the Burger King. That is Central and Broadway. Continue through the 4-way stop, first building on the left. **Do not go to the field operation command post (out by CATM) for academics.**

Due to the short distance from lodging, transportation won't be provided to and from school (unless otherwise briefed); walking time from lodging to the school is five minutes. Please be seated in the classroom **NLT 0730** Monday morning.

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to criminal prosecution. evidence of unauthorized use collected during monitoring may be used for administrative, criminal, or other adverse action. Use of this system constitutes consent to monitoring for these purposes.

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S-V87A Arctic School

HIT F5 to force updated page.

Get the 2007 Student Guide:

The student guide contains all the information you need prior to arrival at Eielson AFB. Download it for printing at the link below.

[2007 Student Guide](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The 2007 schedule has been set; therefore the 2007 Student Guide is available now.

[How do I get in, or change a class date?](#)

THE DEVELOPMENT OF SURVIVAL TRAINING

When the United States entered World War II, the thorny problem of salvaging downed airmen in the several theaters of war quickly came to the attention of Army Air Forces (AAF) officials and US intelligence agencies. The success of British evasion and escape organizations did not go unnoticed by US intelligence agencies. The AAF, in coordination with the Office of Strategic Services, took on the job of developing a capability that paralleled what the British had. As the scope of the war broadened in Europe, so did the business of rescuing downed airmen. With the help of well organized underground forces, the AAF extricated 60 percent of the aircrews downed in the Balkans by late 1944. The task of recouping downed airmen in the Pacific theater was far more complex and far less successful.

General Curtis E. Lemay, Commander in Chief, Strategic Air Command (SAC),

was a strong advocate for survival training. He believed that, with proper training in environmental and situational survival, the Air Force could decrease aircrew member losses during conflict. The first step was arctic survival training, which began in August 1947 with the establishment of the Arctic Indoctrination School at Marks Air Force Base, Alaska, near the city of Nome. The school proved so valuable to aircrew survivability the Air Force soon established a second training center at Ladd Air Force Base, Alaska, for land survival training. Because of budgetary shortfalls and limited training instructor resources, however, the Air Force was forced to consolidate the Marks survival school with the school at Ladd in November 1948. It proved to be a workable merger in that the school conducted both aspects of survival training.

On 16 December 1949, Strategic Air Command opened another survival school at Camp Carson, Colorado, to prepare SAC aircrews for mountainous terrain survival. The first aircrews arrived for training in April 1950. The initial training philosophy was to train entire aircrews together. Since SAC flew multi-place heavy bombers, an instructor could be in charge of up to a 12-man crew. As training began, the first students were those who had some evasion, survival, or resistance experience during World War II. This ensured that the "bugs" were worked out of the training objectives and that all areas were covered before uninitiated crews started the course. Training consisted of 14 days of instruction, with the first three days spent in on-base training and the next 11 in the field. Soon after training began, commanders from the Far East Air Forces, Tactical Air Force, Military Air Transport Service, and the Royal Canadian Air Force were vying for training slots for their aircrews.

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BILLETING

All TDY students should make their own reservations at the Gold Rush Inn (Eielson Billeting). The Goldrush Inn is located in Building 2270, on the corner of Central Avenue and North Street. It is open 24 hours per day, 365 days per year. For reservations, call (907)-377-1844 or DSN (317)-377-1844. To contact a student in billeting, dial 317-377-1844 for the front desk.

Most rooms, including the Sourdough Inn Temporary Lodging Facility, are located in close proximity to the dining facility, Yukon Club, shoppette, base exchange and commissary. You will be required to keep your room while you are deployed to the field. You will get a dual lodging letter that will allow you to maintain your room while under field conditions.

The Gold Rush Inn also has an Internet room that will allow you to log in and check email while you are away.

The Arctic Survival School is located in Building 544, at the corner of Central and Broadway.

Because Students must inprocess, it is best to arrive at the school about 0700. After 0730 you are considered late.

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ADMISSIONS

[Click Here](#) for the Official Catalogue (MIL Only)

IMPORTANT: All slots are controlled by your wing training manager. **You must coordinate through them before you can attend. We here at the Arctic Survival School do not control school billets.**

Orders Preparation:

1. Content. Specify in orders: title and duration of course, class number, reporting date, fund citation, and security clearance, and training line number.
2. Distribution. Student should hand-carry 10 copies of orders. In all cases where AETC operations training funds are cited, a copy of the orders must be sent to DAO-DE AETC/FA, 550 C Street West Suite 49, Randolph AFB TX 78150-4751. For survival training, submit a copy of orders to HQ 19 AF/DO. In addition, send a copy of all orders to 12 CPTS/FMFLT, 29 Main Circle, Suite 01, Randolph AFB TX 78150-4442.

Content. Specify in orders:

Title: S-V87-A Arctic Survival Training

Duration of course: 5 Training Days

Class Number

Reporting date: The first Monday of that week.

Fund citation

Security clearance

Distribution. Student should hand-carry 10 copies of orders to class. In all cases where AETC operations training funds are cited, a copy of the orders must be sent to DAO-DE AETC/FA, 550 C Street West Suite 49, Randolph AFB TX 78150-4751. For survival training, submit a copy of orders to HQ 19 AF/DO. In addition, send a copy of all orders to 12 CPTS/FMFLT, 29 Main Circle, Suite 01, Randolph AFB TX

78150-4442.

Reporting Instruct:

1. TDY students report and are attached to Det 1, 66 TRS, Bldg 3347, Eielson AFB AK, on class start date.
2. Class starts weekly on Monday. **Show time NLT 07:30.**

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DOWNLOADS

*Hit F5 on your keyboard
to ensure the newest page is loaded.*



- [Student Guide](#)
- [Street Map \(ppt\)](#)
- [Basic Arctic Survival Guide](#)
- [SF-600 Medical Clearance Form](#)

More Handouts:

- [Shelter](#)
- [Signaling](#)
- [Navigation](#)
- [Water Procurement](#)
- [Survival Kit Suggestions](#)
- [Coffee Can Survival Kit \(ppt\)](#)

Miscellaneous:

- [AF News Clip: USAF SURVIVAL SCHOOL](#)
- [Preparing for the day \(movie clip\)](#)
- [Old Survival School, Ladd Field, 1950's](#)
- [64-4 Survival Manual \(69 meg zip file\) PDF](#)

Brimfrost Crash Articles:

- [**Article 1**](#)
- [**Article 2**](#)
- [**Article 3**](#)
- [**Article 4**](#)
- [**Article 5**](#)

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PREREQUISITES

Selection Process:

1. Personnel are selected for training in accordance with [AFI 36-2209](#), specifically page 6, table 1. Training is a one-time requirement. **A definite need for training should be clearly indicated by the trainee's present or projected duty assignment.**

2. ECL 80 SR

Student Slots by Department: [Programmed Flying Training Page](#).

Quota Control: HQ AETC/DORA DSN 487-6237 Comm (210) 652-6237

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REQUIRED GEAR

UPDATED FOR 2005

Mandatory

- Uniform: BDU's or flight suit depending on job description. Unacceptable uniforms are Gortex with no BDU's underneath. 2 Sets. Wool uniform acceptable if you are authorized in your MAJCOM AFI.
- Flashlight (1)
- Wool glove inserts (1 pair mandatory, 2d set recommended)
- Medical records with [SF600](#) certifying physical qualifications for training (TDY only)
- Thick expedition-style wool or blend socks, no cotton (5 pair)
- Stocking cap (1)
- Thermal or insulated underwear (2 sets, top and bottom)
- Reflector Belts

Prohibited:

- BDU cap or camouflage baseball cap (1)
- Jungle Boots
- Desert Boots
- Steel Toe Boots
- Cotton Socks (field)
- Unofficial Uniforms (example: Gortex with no BDU's or flight suit underneath)
- Camelback® style water bags

Recommended:

- Disposable camera
- Personal survival kit (contents must be approved by school staff)
- Small first aid kit (contents must be approved by school staff)

- Small sewing kit
- Sunglasses
- Wool scarf
- Personal knife (blades must be no longer than 5")
- Leather glove shells (1 pair) (Moved from mandatory)

FOR OFFICIAL COURSE INFORMATION:

https://etca.randolph.af.mil/showcourse.asp?as_course_id=S-V87-A

NOTE:

You may also bring along other clothing and equipment to gain a better feel for its usefulness in the field, provided it is gear that has been issued or approved for use by your unit to perform your duties. Examples are Sorel type boots, gloves, protective headgear, etc. However, keep in mind you will be issued winter weight gear by the school staff prior to going to the woods; this gear must be taken to the training area so space for additional equipment will be extremely limited.

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S-V87 OVERVIEW

Course S-V87-A, Arctic Survival Training

NOTE CLASS START TIME - 07:30 each Monday morning. Arrive at 07:00 on Monday for inprocessing.

Detachment 1, 66th Training Squadron, conducts Arctic Survival Training at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska. The course is five days in duration with instruction in familiarization with the arctic environment, medical, personal protection (clothing, shelter construction, and firecraft), sustenance (food and water procurement), and signaling.

There are 20 classes a year starting in October and finishing in March. Classes begin on Monday morning with two days of academic and laboratory training. On Wednesday morning the students are transported to the field training area where they practice the various survival techniques taught during the academic phase of training. Friday, after completion of all field requirements, they are transported back to the Detachment for graduation.

COURSE S-V87-A SCHEDULE

MONDAY (Day 1)

0730-0830 Processing & Orientation
0830-1030 Survival Conditions
1030-1130 Personal Protection (Part I)
1200-1315 Lunch (Medical screening if needed)
1315-1415 Personal Protection (Part II)

1415-1545 Sustenance
 1545-1645 Signaling, Communications, and Recovery
 1645-1700 Field Training Briefing (Policies)

TUESDAY (Day 2)

0730-0930 Medical

0930-1015 Element Instructor Introductions Elements 1 & 2 Elements 3 & 4

1015-1120 Exhibits Lab 1015-1025 Equipment Issue

1120-1245 Lunch/Clothing Sales 1025-1125 Equipment Lab

1245-1350 Exhibits Lab 1125-1245 Lunch/Clothing Sales

1350-1400 Equipment Issue 1245-1345 Equipment Packing

1400-1500 Equipment Lab 1345-1555 Exhibits Lab

1500-1600 Equipment Packing

1600-1700 Written Test and Test Critique (All students)

WEDNESDAY (Day 3)

0730-0745 Final Field Briefing

0745-0830 Travel to Field Training Area

0830-2200 Operational Field Training

THURSDAY (Day 4)

0600-2200 Operational Field Training

FRIDAY (Day 5)

0600-1115 Operational Field Training

1115-1200 Travel to Arctic Survival School

1200-1220 Equipment Turn-in

1220-1305 Course Critique and Graduation

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DATES/SCHEDULE

Arctic Survival operates approximately mid October through the end of March. Class starts every Monday at 07:30. The class graduates on Fridays at 1330; **airline departure reservations should not be made** for earlier than 1630 on Friday.

FY 2007 CLASS NUMBERS	DATE STARTS
07-01	30 October
07-02	06 November
07-03	13 Novemberr
07-04	27 November
07-05	04 Decemberr
07-06	11 December
07-07	18 December
07-08** SERE Specialist 3/5 level upgrade training only	08 January <u>Restricted to SERE Specialists only</u>
07-09** SERE Specialist 3/5 level upgrade training only	15 January <u>Restricted to SERE Specialists only</u>
07-10	22 January
07-11	29 January
07-12	05 February
07-12	12 February
07-14	19 February
07-15	26 February

07-16	05 March
07-17	12 March

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HEALTH RECORDS

Medical Records:

1. Students will not have orders issued for any survival training course (to include S-V87-A Arctic Survival Training) until the appropriate medical screening and clearance has been accomplished and documentation of such presented to the MPF issuing the TDY orders. **(Note: Eielson permanent party students medical records may be screened automatically. It is the responsibility of the student to contact their healthcare provider to ensure they are cleared).**

2. Having a current AF Form 1042 Medical Recommendation for Flying and Special Operational Duty, or being on flight status is not sufficient. Screening must be conducted to insure that acute or chronic medical conditions are not present which would preclude the safe completion of all strenuous survival training. The member's physical fitness for training must also be considered.

3. Personnel must be carefully screened for temperament and physical fitness before selection, being in top physical condition for rigorous field maneuvers in rough terrain. Individuals undergoing medical treatment and those with chronic disability or any other physical limitation will not be selected.

4. Medical records, AF Form 1480A or DD Form 2766 must be hand-carried to class and include [SF 600](#), Health Record Chronological Record of Medical Care, documented by flight surgeon, medical officer, or senior medical technician (4N071) with the following statement, "I certify that this member's medical records have been screened and their health history reviewed for any significant acute or chronic medical conditions precluding training attendance. Member is medically qualified to attend required training. The member has been briefed to contact the Military Treatment Facility (24 hour contact point) prior to departing the local area should a health issue arise after this clearance has been issued."

5. Potential disqualifiers might include back and extremity problems, risk factors for coronary artery disease in older and/or deconditioned students, allergies to bees and/or other environmental hazards, and latent psychosocial issues which may surface. Diseases or conditions that will disqualify a candidate for survival training in an Arctic Environment include Reynaud's Syndrome, history of severe frostbite to digits, bi-polar disorders, pregnancy, or use of any medication that is sedating. Acute infections, other than colds, may be disqualifying. If you have a question about a medical condition please feel free to contact the Eielson Flight Medicine office PRIOR to leaving your home station for a definitive answer. You may contact the Flight Medicine office by calling DSN 377-4326 or Com (907) 377-4326.

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S-V87A USAF ARCTIC SURVIVAL SCHOOL



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TRANSPORTATION

A military bus will leave from the airport for Eielson AFB at **1430 and 1830**. It will drop-off students at Eielson AFB billeting office. When traveling by commercial air, students should try to arrive at Fairbanks IAP no earlier than 1230 and NLT 1700L on Sunday. Students arriving after 1830 hrs should be prepared to take a taxi. Cab fares are approximately \$70.00 or more. Students scheduled to arrive at other times should contact 354 TRNS/LGTO, DSN 317-377-1843, 3 days in advance to arrange for transportation. Last minute transportation requests will result in long delays due to the distance between the base and the airport and hazardous road and weather conditions.

NOTE: When arriving at Fairbanks Int'l Airport, the base bus shuttle driver usually checks the Military YMCA lounge near the baggage pick up area.. If you are not there, you may get left. **Additionally, the only food lounge is in the passenger secure area. Once you leave there, you cannot go back.**

PLACES TO EAT ON BASE:

<http://www.eielsonservices.com/artman/publish/dining.html>

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STAFF

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Superintendent/ Resource Adv.
Info Management
Supply
NCOIC Operations
Stan/Eval and Safety
Instructor/ Vehicle Ops
Instructor/ Testing
Instructor/ Phys. Fitness

Maj Guyan Mandich
MSgt Robert Blanchard
MSgt Dave Lemelin
TSgt Troy Donahue
TSgt Brian Kemmer
SSgt Sean Hanson
SSgt Seth Zrucky
SrA Ben Westveer
SSgt Jason Clapper

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USAF ARCTIC SURVIVAL SCHOOL CLASS FY04 FIRST QUARTER STUDENT CRITIQUE FEEDBACK

The following is a summary of the critiques received thus far in the 2004 Fiscal year classes 1-4. We received scores of accolades but we will only publish answerable critiques. Some critiques were not published because they were not legible or understandable. 04-01 and 04-03 had no answerable critiques. Student critiques are unaltered except for minor spelling corrections.

- COMMENTS MADE BY STUDENTS
- ANSWERS IN BLUE

CLASS 04-02

- Add camelback to list of recommended items to bring on web page.
- Camelback removed from recommended list to the do not bring list. The reason for this is two fold: first, camelbacks are becoming large action packs and daypacks; second, there is no good training objective accomplished with camelbacks. Students will learn more from utilizing issued survival gear.
- Keep the MRE's from students (until after the snare lesson). Hard to motivate yourself to eat critters if you know there is an MRE waiting on you.
- Critique Accepted. Students will now receive the MRE's later in the day to prevent snacking all day and provide more motivation to acquire game.

Class 04-04

- Time in the field could have been accelerated more. It seem there was a lot of down time for breaks. It may be necessary in extreme temps, but we could have completed the field in 36 hours easily.
- That is an accurate statement since you were only in the field 34 hours. Warm

temperatures made your field experience and easy one and everyone was advised of that. Normal operations of extreme temperatures and deep snow will use up the entire 50 allotted hours to accomplish the objectives.

- My suggestion is a Porta-John. I didn't want to crap on two sticks.
- First, Porta-Johns cannot be maintained in the training area because the company cannot get in and out on the rough roads. Second, maintaining health in an austere environment is part of survival training. You've discovered you have an aversion to adaptation.
- The only suggestion I would make is to get some element leader input for the element high achiever. I think the SrA who received it did a great job, but I feel there were some other airman/NCOs that really went above and beyond.
- Since there is only one award per element, and everyone in the element votes, it is done as fair as possible.
- The only thing was the crapper. It was foul dirty tissue and fecal matter was everywhere. Suggest that they spread some of the ash from the fire on top of it to cut down smell and to help bury some of it.
- You are correct in your assessment that fecal matter is foul and smells bad. The instructor took a look at your latrine and noted that it was normal and useable. Your instructor also taught you how to prioritize work, and to be proactive. In survival, the "THEY" you are referring to is "YOU". If you were waiting for someone else to shovel some ash over the feces, you haven't learned what survival is about.
- Would appreciate 2-3 page course handout with the main points of the classroom lectures. For example: list all the acronyms and/or list different types of edible plants in AK with small pictures or description. Something like that. It would only take a few pages and doesn't have to have every ppt slide just the main facts/emphasis items.
- We do supply a course handout with an outline and room for notes. I brief where students can obtain one during my intro brief. There are legal copyright, monetary, and proprietary issues with publishing an edible plant guide for Alaska. This is something you can obtain from a bookstore. The Air Force cannot get into the business of competing with those publishers.
- Some of the rectangular sharpening stones with the bolt knives in our element were missing/broken. Would appreciate (unreadable) stones. Fortunately there were plenty of circular stones in the camp, but didn't help if we were away from camp.
- The Bolt-Knives we use are salvage from Life Support. Sometimes we get stone with them, sometimes not. This is why we do provide the circular stones in the camp, so student survivors may sharpen them in their free/work time. It appears you found yourself away from camp with a dull knife and are now looking for someone else to blame.
- Suggestion for vectoring: With limited resources for helicopters, local Civil Air Patrol until may be able to fill in. They use and are trained in the same procedures/techniques we use.
- If you know of a C.A.P. that wants to volunteer for vector flying, we would be happy to allow them to fly as long as it does not require any more coordination time then we spend on planning now. In the future however, we will be utilizing radio communication (PRC-112B) that C.A.P. will not have access to.
- Need more computers to speed process.
- Agreed. This is a new student in-processing program that we are still

experimenting with. The plan is to dedicate an entire room with six computers so there will be no delays in-processing students.

- Can of beans could be replaced with something that doesn't cause gas in the shared tent.
- We would be interested in a substitute suggestion provided: a) it doesn't cost any more; b) it comes in a can. In times past, all students received was a can of beef broth.

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